

THE
ADVENTURES OF
TOM SAWYER
Mark Twain
1

WRY
HUMOROUS
DEVIOUS

Tom lay thinking. Presently it occurred to him that he wished he was sick; then he could stay home from school. Here was a vague possibility. He canvassed his system. No ailment was found, and he investigated again. This time he thought he could detect colicky symptoms, and he began to encourage them with considerable hope. But they soon grew feeble, and presently died wholly away. He reflected further. He suddenly discovered something. One of his upper front teeth was loose. This was lucky; he was about to begin to groan, as a "starter," as he called it, when it occurred to him that if he came into court with that argument, his aunt would pull it out, and that would hurt.

THE OLD MAN
AND THE SEA
Ernest Hemingway
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SYMPATHETIC
CARING
REVERENT
RESPECTFUL

When the boy came back the old man was asleep in the chair and the sun was down. The boy took the old army blanket off the bed and spread it over the back of the chair and spread it over the old man's shoulders. They were strange shoulders, still powerful although very old, and the neck was still strong too and the creases did not show so much when the old man was asleep and his head fallen forward. His shirt had been patched so many times that it was like the sail and the patches were faded to many different shades by the sun.

ONE OF THE
MISSING
Ambrose Bierce
3
RESIGNATION
(CYNICISM)
GRIM
DARK

The creatures went away; they would return later, attack his face, gnaw away his nose, cut his throat—he knew that, but he hoped by that time to be dead.

THE MURDERS
IN THE
RUE MORGUE
Edgar Allan Poe
23
OBJECTIVE
STRAIGHT-
FORWARD

Let it not be supposed, from what I have just said, that I am detailing any mystery, or penning any romance. What I have described in the Frenchman was merely the result of an excited, or perhaps of a diseased, intelligence. But of the character of his remarks at the periods in question an example will best convey the idea.

CANDIDE
Voltaire
53

In the midst of this dispute they heard the sound of canon. The noise redoubles each moment. Everyone takes his spyglass. They see two ships fighting about three miles away. The wind brought them both so near the French ship that they had the pleasure of seeing the combat quite at their ease. Finally one of the two ships sent the other a broadside so low and so accurate as to sink it. Candide and Martin distinctly saw a hundred men on the main deck of the sinking ship; they all raised their hands to heaven and uttered frightful screams; in a moment all was swallowed up.

EXCITED
(AWESTRUCK)

HARD TIMES
Charles Dickens
50

INFLEXIBLE
DEMANDING

"Now, what I want is, Facts. Teach these boys and girls nothing but Facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else. You can only form the minds of reasoning animals upon Facts: nothing else will ever be of any service to them. This is the principle on which I bring up my own children, and this is the principle on which I bring up these children. Stick to Facts, Sir!"

PARKER
ADDERSON,
PHILOSOPHER
Ambrose Bierce
6
SARDONIC
SARCASTIC
CYNICAL

"How do you know that you are to die to-morrow morning?"

"Among spies captured by night that is the custom. It is one of the nice observances of the profession."

OLIVER TWIST
Charles Dickens
15
FEARFUL
THREATENING

Oliver, more dead than alive, gasped out, "Yes." Sikes, pointing to the street-door with the pistol-barrel, briefly advised him to take notice that he was within shot all the way; and that if he faltered, he would fall dead that instant.

THE OLD MAN
AND THE SEA

Ernest Hemingway
4

"What do you have to eat?" the boy asked.

"A pot of yellow rice with fish. Do you want some?"

"No. I will eat at home. Do you want me to make the fire?"

"No. I will make it later on. Or I may eat the rice cold."

"May I take the cast net?"

"Of course."

There was no cast net and the boy remembered when they had sold it. But they went through this fiction every day. There was no pot of yellow rice and fish and the boy knew this too.

DISHEARTENED
PATHETIC
MELANCHOLY

A FAREWELL
TO ARMS

Ernest Hemingway
19

Before he came back three doctors came into the room. I have noticed that doctors who fail in the practice of medicine have a tendency to seek one another's company and aid in consultation. A doctor who cannot take out your appendix properly will recommend to you a doctor who will be unable to remove your tonsils with success. These were three such doctors.

MOCKING
DISPARAGING

ROBINSON
CRUSOE

Daniel Defoe
8

No joy at a thing of so mean a nature was ever equal to mine, when I found I had made an earthen pot that would bear the fire; and I had hardly patience to stay till they were cold, before I set one upon the fire again, with some water in it, to boil me some meat, which it did admirably well; and with a piece of a kid I made some very good broth, though I wanted oatmeal and several other ingredients requisite to make it so good as I would have had it been.

SATISFIED
CONTENT

JANE EYRE

Charlotte Brontë
11

A small breakfast-room adjoined the drawing-room. I slipped in there. It contained a book-case: I soon possessed myself of a *volume*, taking care that it should be one stored with pictures. I mounted into the window-seat: gathering up my feet.

COMFORTABLE
CALM

DON QUIXOTE
Miguel de Cervantes

21

Placing the table at the door of the hostelry, in the open air, they brought the guest a portion of badly soaked and worse cooked codfish and a piece of bread as black and moldy as the suit of armor that he wore. It was a mirth-provoking sight to see him eat, for he still had his helmet on with his visor fastened, which made it impossible for him to put anything into his mouth with his hands, and so it was necessary for one of the girls to feed him. As for giving him anything to drink, that would have been out of the question if the innkeeper had not hollowed out a reed, placing one end in Don Quixote's mouth while through the other end he poured the wine. All this the knight bore very patiently rather than have them cut the ribbons of his helmet.

HUMOROUS
IRREVERENT

ONE DAY IN THE
LIFE OF
IVAN DENISOVICH

Alexander I.
Solzhenitsyn
26

By the way, in thirty-eight I met my old sergeant in the Kotlas transit camp. He'd gotten ten years too. Well, I got to know from him that this Colonel and his commissar were both shot in thirty-seven. It didn't make much difference then whether they were proletarians or kulaks, whether they had a conscience or not . . . I crossed myself and said: "There's a God in heaven after all. He's long-suffering, but when he hits you, it hurts."

CYNICAL
GRIM
SARCASTIC

THE GRAPES
OF WRATH

John Steinbeck
14

Now farming became industry, and the owners followed Rome, although they did not know it. They imported slaves, although they did not call them slaves; Chinese, Japanese, Mexicans, Filipinos. They live on rice and beans, the business men said. They don't need much. They wouldn't know what to do with good wages. Why, look how they live. Why, look what they eat. And if they get funny—deport them.

Speaker
towards
business
men

DISPARAGING
CRITICAL
CONTEMPTUOUS

businessmen
to workers